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& SHOHL LLP****FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL***from* **SUSAN M. LUNA**

December 10, 2003

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To: Examiner M. Estrada, Art Unit 2823**Firm:** Commissioner for Patents**Fax Number:** 703-872-9306**Client Number:** MIO 0018 V2/40509.182
96-1138.03**Pages:** 2
(including cover)**Comments:** OFFICIALOFFICIALOFFICIAL**U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/078,831**

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PAGE 1/2 * RCVD AT 12/10/2003 9:31:39 AM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/2 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:9372230724 * DURATION (mm-ss):00:44

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Applicant : Sanh Dang Tang
Serial No. : 10/078,831
Filed : February 18, 2002
Title : SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES HAVING GRADUAL SLOPE
CONTACTS
Docket : MIO 0018 V2 (96-1138.03)
Examiner : M. Estrada
Art Unit : 2823

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

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COMMUNICATION

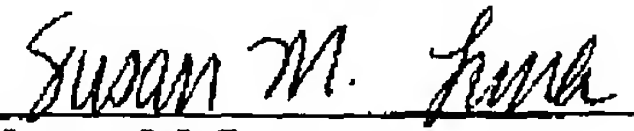
This paper is being filed pursuant to the final Office Action mailed December 3, 2003. Applicant respectfully requests issuance of a new Office Action which includes substantive consideration of all claims, including claim 9, which was added in the amendment filed September 11, 2003. Applicant further requests that a new statutory period be set for response.

Please direct any questions to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP

By



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